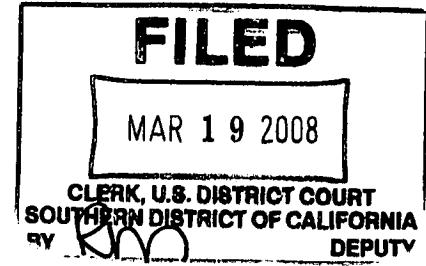


**ORIGINAL**

1 SUIHUAN CAO  
 2 A38-494-554  
 2 San Diego Detention Center (CCA)  
 P.O. Box 439049  
 3 San Ysidro, CA 92143-9049

5 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**6 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

7 SUIHUAN CAO,  
 8 [A38-494-554]

9 Petitioner,

10 v.

11 MICHAEL CHERTOFF, SECRETARY OF  
 THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
 SECURITY, MICHAEL MUKASEY,  
 ATTORNEY GENERAL, ROBIN F.  
 BAKER, DIRECTOR OF SAN DIEGO  
 FIELD OFFICE, U.S. IMMIGRATION AND  
 CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, JOHN A.  
 GARZON, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

15 Respondents.

16 Civil Action No.

**'08 CV 0511 DMS BLM****DECLARATION OF JANET TUNG IN  
 SUPPORT OF THE  
 PETITIONER'S MOTIONS**

17 I, Janet Tung, hereby declare:

18 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California, in the United States  
 District Courts for the Southern, Eastern, and Northern Districts of California, and in the United States Court  
 of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

21 2. I am an employee of Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. Federal Defenders of San Diego,  
 Inc., is ready and able to assist this petitioner in his petition for writ of habeas corpus.

22 3. In my capacity as an employee of the Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., I am assisting  
 the petitioner, Suihan Cao, in securing his release from the custody of federal immigration officials, and in  
 filing a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court for the Southern District of  
 California.

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*CH*

1           4. As an employee of Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., I monitor indefinite detainee  
 2 litigation in other Ninth Circuit districts, and maintain contact with other federal defender offices involved  
 3 with this litigation.

4           5. The Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. currently assists, represents, and/or is preparing  
 5 to initiate habeas proceedings on behalf of individuals in the Southern District of California, who are non-  
 6 removable aliens and continue to be detained by the Department of Homeland Security despite the expiration  
 7 of the 180-day post-order removal period set forth under Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678, 701 (2001).

8           6. As of the filing of this declaration, our office represents others that have been ordered  
 9 deported and that remain in the detention of the respondents beyond the 180-day post-order removal period  
 10 that is considered presumptively reasonable in Zadvydas. By way of example, our office represented Ahmed  
 11 El-Bashir Mustafa, Case No. 07CV480 WQH (POR), who had been in immigration custody and subject to  
 12 a final order of removal since July 22, 2006, awaiting removal to Sudan.

13           7. In light of the respondents' continued detention of deportable aliens beyond the 180-day  
 14 post-order removal period proscribed in Zadvydas, the United States District Court for the Southern District  
 15 of California has consistently appointed Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. to assist petitioners in their  
 16 efforts to challenge their continued detention in immigration custody in violation of federal law. See Order  
 17 to Show Cause as to Why the Petition For Writ of Habeas Corpus Should Not be Granted and Order Granting  
 18 Motion for Appointment of Counsel, Mustafa v. Chertoff, et al., Case No. 07CV480 WQH (POR) (S.D. Cal.  
 19 May 1, 2007) (attached hereto as Appendix A); Order (1) Granting Petitioner's Motion for Appointment of  
 20 Counsel; (2) Granting Petitioner *In Forma Pauperis* Status; and (3) Directing Respondents to Show Cause,  
 21 Baltayan v. Chertoff, et al., Case No. 06CV0305-IEG (BLM) (S.D. Cal. Feb. 15, 2006) (attached hereto as  
 22 Appendix B); see also Order Granting Motion for Appointment of Counsel, Casas-Castrillon v. Dept. of  
 23 Homeland Security, Case No. 05CV1552-BEN (NLS) (S.D. Cal. Jan. 31, 2006) (attached hereto as Appendix  
 24 C); see also Order Granting Request for Appointment of Counsel, Suarez-Torres v. Chertoff, et al., Case No.  
 25 06CV1444-W (WMc) (S.D. Cal. Aug. 8, 2006) (attached hereto as Appendix D).

26           8. Mr. Cao is one of several non-removable aliens currently in the respondents' custody in the  
 27 Southern District of California whom Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. is assisting in challenging the  
 28 lawfulness of detention subsequent to the expiration of the 180-day post-order removal period.

1       9. I have spoken and corresponded with Mr. Cao in an effort to assist him in securing his  
2 release from custody of the respondents. After conferring with Mr. Cao, I concluded that a petition for a writ  
3 of habeas corpus should be filed on his behalf, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241.

4       10. Based on my discussions with Mr. Cao, I am informed and believe that a federal  
5 immigration judge ordered him removed to China on October 2, 1995; and the Board of Immigration Appeals  
6 (BIA) affirmed the decision on March 24, 1997. The removal order became administratively final on March  
7 25, 1997. See 8 C.F.R. § 1241.1(a) (circumstances under which order of immigration judge becomes final).  
8 Mr. Cao's removal period commenced as of March 25, 1997. See 8 U.S.C. § 1231(a)(1)(B).

9       11. I am informed and believe that Mr. Cao most recently entered respondents' custody on June  
10 8, 2007, and has remained in detention since then. He has therefore been in respondents' continuous custody  
11 for over ten months as of the date of this declaration.

12       12. Mr. Cao is currently detained by the respondents at the ICE San Diego Detention Facility,  
13 in the Southern District of California. The six month post-order removal detention period enunciated by the  
14 Supreme Court in Zadvydas expired on or about **December 8, 2007**.

15       13. I am informed and believe Mr. Cao is a native of China.

16       14. I am informed and believe Mr. Cao came to the United States in 1983, as a lawful  
17 permanent resident under the sponsorship of his grandfather.

18       15. I am informed and believe that Mr. Cao's removal order became administratively final on  
19 March 24, 1997, the date the Board of Immigration Appeals dismissed his appeal.

20       16. I am informed and believe Mr. Cao has no legal education, training, or background in the  
21 United States or any other country.

22       17. I am informed and believe that Mr. Cao has limited financial resources and is unable to  
23 afford to hire an attorney to represent him in this matter. The current balance in his custody trust account is  
24 less than \$500. See Prison Certificate attached to accompanying Motion for Appointment of Counsel. Since  
25 he is in custody, he does not have a source of income or employment. Mr. Cao was employed as a waiter at  
26 the Wing Hing Chinese Restaurant in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for four years before he was taken into  
27 custody. His monthly earnings were approximately \$2,000, which terminated in June 2007 due to his  
28 prolonged detention. He has no checking, savings or other financial accounts. Mr. Cao owns a 2001 Honda

1 Civic; he owns no real property or any other assets. As a result, he cannot afford to retain counsel.

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I certify under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

5 Executed in San Diego, California on March 19, 2008.

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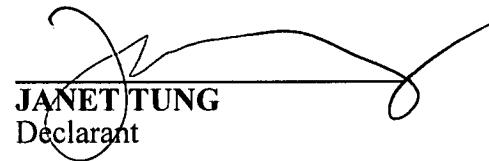
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JANET TUNG  
Declarant

# APPENDIX A

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 AHMED EL-BASHIR MUSTAFA,  
12 Petitioner,  
13 vs.  
14 MICHAEL CHERTOFF, SECRETARY OF  
15 THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
16 SECURITY, et al.,  
17 Respondents.

CASE NO. 07CV480 WQH (POR)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE AS TO  
WHY THE PETITION FOR WRIT OF  
HABEAS CORPUS SHOULD NOT  
BE GRANTED AND ORDER  
GRANTING MOTION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

18 HAYES, Judge:

Pending before the Court are Petitioner Ahmed El-Bashir Mustafa's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (Doc. # 1) and motion for appointment of counsel pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B). (Docs. # 3, 1-2). Petitioner, who has been subject to a final order of removal since July 22, 2006, alleges that his continued and indefinite detention is unlawful because he has been detained beyond the presumptively reasonable period of six months and there is no significant likelihood of removal in the reasonably foreseeable future. *See Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678 (2001); *Nadarajah v. Gonzalez*, 443 F.3d 1069 (9th Cir. 2006).

## **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

Having reviewed Petitioner's claims, the Court finds that summary dismissal of the petition is unwarranted at this time. *See Kourteva v. INS*, 151 F. Supp. 2d 1126, 1128 (N.D. Cal. 2001)

1 ("Summary dismissal is appropriate only where the allegations in the petition are vague or conclusory,  
 2 palpably incredible, or patently frivolous or false."). Accordingly, Respondents are **ORDERED TO**  
 3 **SHOW CAUSE** why the petition should not be granted by:

4 (1) filing a written return no later than **Tuesday, May 29, 2007**.  
 5 (2) filing copies of all documents, orders and transcripts relevant to the petition; and  
 6 (3) filing a memorandum of law and fact fully stating Respondents' position and making  
 7 a recommendation regarding the need for an evidentiary hearing on the petition.

8 If Petitioner wishes to reply to the return, he may do so by way of a traverse filed no later than  
 9 **Friday, June 15, 2007**.

10 **MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

11 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B) provides that "[w]henever the United States magistrate or the  
 12 court determines that the interests of justice so require, representation may be provided for any  
 13 financially eligible person who . . . (B) is seeking relief under section 2241 . . . ." "The purpose of  
 14 section 3006A is to provide for appointed counsel whenever required if failure to do so amounts to  
 15 a denial of due process." *Gray v. Kernan*, No. C-92-3379-DLJ, 1993 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2113, \*10-12  
 16 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 1993); *citing Chaney v. Lewis*, 801 F.2d 1191, 1196 (9th Cir. 1986). Unless an  
 17 evidentiary hearing is required, appointment of counsel pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B) is in  
 18 the discretion of the district court. *Terrovona v. Kincheloe*, 912 F.2d 1176, 1181-82 (9th Cir. 1990).  
 19 In deciding whether to appoint counsel, the district court "must evaluate the likelihood of success on  
 20 the merits as well as the ability of the petitioner to articulate his claims *pro se* in light of the  
 21 complexity of the legal issues involved." *Gutierrez v. Flannigan*, No. CIV 05-2981 PHX DGC  
 22 (DKD), 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 31984, \*1-2 (D. Ariz. Dec. 7, 2005); *citing Weygandt v. Look*, 718  
 23 F.2d 952, 954 (9th Cir. 1983).

24 **A. Likelihood of Success on the Merits**

25 Petitioner has been subject to a final order of removal since July 22, 2006, yet has been held  
 26 beyond the six month presumptively reasonable time period articulated in *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S.  
 27 678, 701 (2001). As of yet, the United States has not received travel documents that would permit  
 28 Petitioner to return to Sudan, and it appears that regional conflict in Sudan could make impossible the

1 receipt by the United States of the necessary travel documents in the reasonably foreseeable future.  
 2 *See Ma v. Ashcroft*, 257 F.3d 1095, 1005 (9th Cir. 2001) (when there is no reasonable likelihood that  
 3 a foreign government will accept a removable alien's return in the reasonably foreseeable future, the  
 4 removable alien may not be held by the United States for more than a reasonable period beyond the  
 5 removal period). In addition, the United States cannot effectuate Petitioner's removal to a country  
 6 other than Sudan under 8 U.S.C. § 1231(b)(2)(E)(iii) because Petitioner did not reside in a country  
 7 other than Sudan before entering the United States. Under the facts as alleged in the Petition for Writ  
 8 of Habeas Corpus, the Court concludes that Petitioner has demonstrated a likelihood of success on the  
 9 merits.

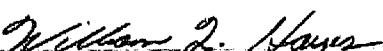
10 **B. Complexity of Legal Issues**

11 The complexity of immigration and habeas law highlights the potential benefits of appointed  
 12 counsel in these proceedings. Indeed, the Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit has declared that  
 13 “[w]ith only a small degree of hyperbole, the immigration laws have been deemed second only to the  
 14 Internal Revenue Code in complexity.” *United States v. Ahumada-Aguilar*, 295 F.3d 943, 950 (9th  
 15 Cir. 2002). Furthermore, assuming the Court grants the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, there will  
 16 be a period of supervised release which involves 8 U.S.C. § 1231's complex statutory scheme. *See*  
 17 *Ma*, 257 F.3d at 1104-05. The Court concludes that the issues presented are sufficiently complex to  
 18 warrant appointment of counsel, particularly in light of the fact that Petitioner has had no formal  
 19 education or training in the United States.

20 After reviewing the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus and the accompanying declaration, and  
 21 in recognition of the potential need for an evidentiary hearing, the Court concludes that appointment  
 22 of counsel is warranted at this time. The motion for appointment of counsel (Docs. # 3, 1-2) is  
 23 GRANTED. The Court appoints Federal Defenders, Inc. as Petitioner's counsel in this case.

24 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

25 DATED: May 1, 2007

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 27 **WILLIAM Q. HAYES**  
 28 United States District Judge

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# **APPENDIX B**

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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY:

*J. H.* DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ARUTYUN BALTAYAN,

Petitioner,

vs.

MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary of the  
Department of Homeland Security, et al.,

Respondents.

CASE NO. 06CV305 -IEG (BLM)

**ORDER (1) GRANTING  
PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL; (2)  
GRANTING PETITIONER *IN FORMA  
PAUPERIS* STATUS and (3)  
DIRECTING RESPONDENTS TO  
SHOW CAUSE WHY PETITIONER'S  
REQUEST FOR HABEAS CORPUS  
RELIEF PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §  
2241 SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED**

On February 9, 2006, Arutyun Baltayan, ("petitioner") filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging his detention by respondents Michael Chertoff, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security; Alberto Gonzales, Attorney General; Ron Smith, Director of San Diego Field Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and Michael McGee, Officer-in-Charge (collectively "respondents" or the "government").

On that same day, petitioner filed a motion for appointment of counsel pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. Section 3006A(a)(2)(b) provides that when the Court determines that "the interests of justice so require," the Court may appoint counsel for financially eligible individuals who are seeking relief under section 2241. The Court finds that the appointment of counsel is appropriate in this case. Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., has requested to be appointed to represent petitioner in this matter. The Court therefore **GRANTS** petitioner's motion for

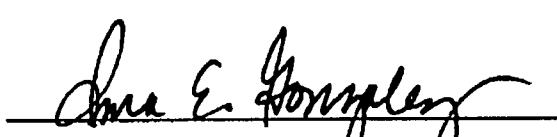
1 appointment of counsel and **APPOINTS** Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. to represent him.

2 On the same day, petitioner filed a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. §  
3 1915. Having reviewed petitioner's application and good cause appearing, the Court **GRANTS**  
4 petitioner *in forma pauperis* status.

5 Furthermore, upon receipt of the petition, and finding that the matter is not appropriate for  
6 summary disposition, the Court **ORDERS** respondents to show cause why the petition should not  
7 be granted. Respondents shall have until **Monday, March 13, 2006**, to file and personally serve  
8 an answer to the petition. Petitioner may file a traverse by no later than **Monday, April 3, 2006**.  
9 Unless the Court orders otherwise, the matter will be taken under submission and decided without  
10 oral argument. Local Rule 7.1(d)(1).

11 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

12  
13 Dated: 2/14/06



14 HON. IRMA E. GONZALEZ, Chief Judge  
15 United States District Court  
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# APPENDIX C

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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 LUIS FELIPE CASAS CASTRILLON,

CASE NO. 05CV1552-BEN (NLS)

12 vs. Petitioner,

**ORDER APPOINTING COUNSEL**  
(Docket No. 2)13 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
14 SECURITY, et al.,

15 Respondents.

16 Petitioner, LUIS FELIPE CASAS CASTRILLON ("Petitioner"), a citizen of Colombia, has  
 17 filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus ("Petition") pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241.<sup>1</sup> He claims  
 18 the Department of Homeland Security has custody of his person in violation of 8 U.S.C. §  
 19 1231(a)(6). Petitioner now requests appointment of counsel pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. For  
 20 the reasons that follow, the Court GRANTS Petitioner's request and appoints Ms. Lori B.  
 21 Schoenberg from the Federal Defenders of San Diego as counsel.

22 "Section 3006A(g) provides that counsel may be appointed for an impoverished habeas

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 25 <sup>1</sup> "The relevant statute, 28 U.S.C. § 2241, provides that a writ of habeas corpus shall only be  
 26 granted if 'a prisoner' is in custody under the authority of the United States 'in violation of the  
 27 Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.' Although the statute is commonly used by federal  
 28 prisoners detained on criminal charges, it has also been employed, both historically and in its current  
 form, by aliens detained for immigration law enforcement purposes." Armentero v. I.N.S., 340 F.3d  
 1058, 1061 (9th Cir. 2003); see also, Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 688 (2001) ("We conclude that §  
 2241 habeas corpus proceedings remain available as a forum for statutory and constitutional challenges  
 to post-removal-period detention.").

1 petitioner whenever ‘the court determines that the interests of justice so require’....” Bashor v.  
 2 Risley, 730 F.2d 1228, 1234 (9th Cir. 1984), quoting, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(g); Chaney v. Lewis, 801  
 3 F.2d 1191, 1196 (9th Cir. 1986) (“The district court has discretion to appoint counsel for indigents  
 4 when it determines that the interests of justice so require.”) The Court “must evaluate both the  
 5 likelihood of success on the merits and the ability of the petitioner to articulate his claims pro se in  
 6 light of the complexity of the legal issues involved.” Rand v. Rowland, 113 F.3d 1520, 1525 (9th  
 7 Cir. 1997) (Citations omitted); see also, Abdullah v. Norris, 18 F.3d 571, 573 (8th Cir. 1994) ( The  
 8 Court “should consider the legal complexity of the case, the factual complexity of the case, the  
 9 petitioner’s ability to investigate and present his claim, and any other relevant factors.”).

10 It is likely that Petitioner will prevail on his claim. See, Rand v. Rowland, 113 F.3d at  
 11 1525. Petitioner claims that he is detained in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1231(a)(6). The Supreme  
 12 Court has held that a post-removal detention exceeding six months is presumptively unreasonable.  
 13 See, Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. at 701 (“[O]nce the alien provides good reason to believe that  
 14 there is no significant likelihood of removal in the reasonably foreseeable future, the Government  
 15 must respond with evidence sufficient to rebut that showing.”); see also, Arango Marquez v. I.N.S.,  
 16 346 F.3d 892, 898 -899 (9th Cir. 2003) (“Section 1231(a)(6) does not authorize indefinite post-  
 17 removal period detention, but instead imposes an implied six-month limit on such detention,  
 18 provided that removal is not reasonably foreseeable.”). According to the Petitioner, he was  
 19 ordered removed in January 2002 and his removal became final in July 2002. Zadvydas’s six  
 20 months limitation period in Petitioner’s case expired in or about January 2003. There is no  
 21 indication that since Petitioner has been in custody Respondents has attempted to remove him back  
 22 to Colombia. Petitioner thus has shown that there “is no significant likelihood of removal in the  
 23 reasonably foreseeable future.” Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. at 701.

24 In addition, Petitioner is incapable of articulating his claims pro se. The case involves  
 25 complex Constitutional and statutory analysis, and interpretation of Supreme Court precedent.  
 26 Also, Petitioner’s potential release would require, among other things, complex negotiations  
 27 regarding release terms and bond amounts. See, Bonin v. Vasquez, 999 F.2d 425, 429 (9th Cir.  
 28 1993) (“[A]ppointment of counsel is necessary to prevent due process violations from occurring.”).

1 Finally, Petitioner cannot afford to retain counsel as he has no income or assets. (Motion at 1.)  
2 This, coupled with complexity of the issues presented, also renders appointment of counsel  
3 appropriate.

4 For reasons set forth above, Petitioner's request for appointment of counsel is **GRANTED**.

5 The Court appoints Federal Defenders, Inc. (Ms. Lori B. Schoenberg) as counsel.

6  
7 DATED: 1/30/06

  
ROGER T. BENITEZ  
United States District Judge

9 cc: All parties and respective counsel

10 Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. (Ms. Lori B. Schoenberg)

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# APPENDIX D

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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY: 

DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

AROLDO SUAREZ-TORRES,

Petitioner,

v.  
MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary of  
the Department of Homeland  
Security; ALBERTO GONZALES,  
Attorney General of the United States;  
RON SMITH, Director of San Diego  
Field Office, Bureau of Immigration  
and Customs Enforcement, and TONY  
CERONE, Officer-in-Charge,

Respondents.

CASE NO: 06-CV-1444 W  
(WMC)

ORDER GRANTING  
REQUEST FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF  
COUNSEL

On July 17, 2006 Petitioner Aroldo Suarez-Torres ("Petitioner"), a detainee in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, proceeding *pro se*, commenced this Petition for habeas relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Petitioner now seeks appointment of counsel. For the reasons outlined below, the Court **GRANTS** Petitioner's request.

I. **REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

The Court may appoint counsel for financially eligible persons seeking habeas

1 relief if "the interests of justice so require." 28 U.S.C. § 3006A (a)(2)(B). "In deciding  
 2 whether to appoint counsel in a habeas proceeding, the district court must evaluate the  
 3 likelihood of success on the merits as well as the ability of the petitioner to articulate  
 4 his claims pro se in light of the complexity of the legal issues involved." Weygandt v.  
 5 Look, 718 F.2d 952, 954 (9th Cir. 1983); see also Rand v. Rowland, 113 F.3d 1520,  
 6 1525 (9th Cir. 1997). Additionally, appointed counsel is mandated when (1) necessary  
 7 for effective discovery, or (2) an evidentiary hearing may occur. Weygandt, 718 F.2d  
 8 at 954.

9       A.     LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS ON THE MERITS

10      The Court must first determine Petitioner's likelihood of success on the merits.  
 11 The United States Supreme Court has stated that a detention of more than six months  
 12 beyond the post-removal period is presumptively unreasonable. Zadvydas v. Davis, 533  
 13 U.S. 678, 701 (2001). At that point, "once the alien provides good reason to believe  
 14 that there is no significant likelihood of removal in the reasonably foreseeable future,  
 15 the Government must respond with evidence sufficient to rebut that showing." Id.

16      Here, Petitioner fled Cuba by boat in 1980 and was paroled into the U.S. as a  
 17 "Mariel" refugee from Cuba. Petition at 1. In 1982, Petitioner was ordered deported  
 18 to Cuba and initially entered Respondent's custody at that time, remaining in detention  
 19 for two years. (Id. at 2.) He was later returned to custody in 1995 and remained in  
 20 immigration detention for eight years, being released in 2003. (Id.)

21      Petitioner was subsequently returned to the custody of U.S. Immigration and  
 22 Customs Enforcement ("ICE") on December 27, 2005. He has remained in ICE  
 23 custody since that date. ICE conducted a Post-Order Custody Review of Petitioner's  
 24 detention pursuant to 8 C.F.R. §241.4 in April 2006. ICE informed the Petitioner that  
 25 he would not be released from custody pending removal or further review by the  
 26 Headquarters Post-Order Detention Unit. His custody review by Headquarters was  
 27 scheduled to be held on or about June 27, 2006. He is currently in custody.

28      As such, the 180-day post-removal period expired on or before June 25, 2006

1 from Petitioner's last detention on December 27, 2005. Moreover, the evidence  
 2 suggests that Petitioner's native country, Cuba, will not enable removal. During the  
 3 twenty-four year period in which Petitioner has been awaiting removal, including a total  
 4 of over ten years in physical custody of federal immigration officials, the United States  
 5 government has not received travel documents that would permit the Petitioner's  
 6 repatriation to Cuba. See Petition at 2. On this evidence, the Court finds that  
 7 Petitioner has satisfied his burden and demonstrated to the Court's satisfaction that  
 8 there "is no significant likelihood of removal in the reasonably foreseeable future."  
 9 Zadvydas, 533 U.S. at 701. Therefore, Petitioner has demonstrated a high likelihood  
 10 of success on the merits.

11       B.     COMPLEXITY OF LEGAL ISSUES

12       Next, the Court must determine whether Petitioner is capable of articulating his  
 13 claims *pro se* in light of the case's complexity. The Court finds that Petitioner is  
 14 incapable of adequately articulating these claims *pro se* for several reasons. First, the  
 15 case involves Constitutional analysis, complex statutory analysis, principles of  
 16 jurisdiction, and administrative procedure. Second, an analysis of immigration law is  
 17 required and the Ninth Circuit has declared that "[w]ith only a small degree of  
 18 hyperbole, the immigration laws have been deemed second only to the Internal  
 19 Revenue Code in complexity." United States v Ahumada-Aguilar, 295 F.3d 943, 950  
 20 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002)(citations and internal quotes omitted). Therefore, it is unlikely  
 21 Petitioner could "thread the labyrinth" of immigration law without an attorney. Id.  
 22 Third, Petitioner's potential supervised release would require complex negotiations  
 23 regarding release terms, bond amounts, and other considerations. Finally, Petitioner's  
 24 education compels appointed counsel. Petitioner has no education, or background in  
 25 legal affairs, and cannot read English. See Fife Declaration. ¶¶ 15-16. In light of  
 26 Petitioner's background, coupled with the complexity of the legal issues presented in  
 27 this case, the Court finds that appointed counsel is appropriate.

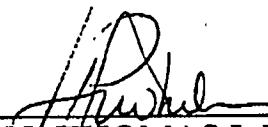
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1           C. DISCOVERY CONSIDERATIONS

2           In order to effectively litigate his habeas claim, Petitioner will need access to his  
3 Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement file. To accomplish this goal,  
4 Petitioner must (1) be able to effectively use discovery procedures, as well as (2) be  
5 capable of interpreting the documents when they arrive. An evidentiary hearing may  
6 be required to give the government an opportunity to rebut Petitioner's contention that  
7 his removal to Cuba is not likely in the reasonably foreseeable future and Petitioner  
8 lacks sufficient legal background to advocate for himself during a contested motion  
9 hearing. In light of the mandate set forth in Weygandt, as well as the considerations  
10 described above, the Court is obligated to appoint counsel to effectively allow proper  
11 discovery in this case.

12           II. CONCLUSION

13           In light of the foregoing, the Court GRANTS Petitioner's request for  
14 appointment of counsel. The Court appoints Federal Defenders, Inc. (James Fife) as  
15 Petitioner's counsel in this case.

16  
17           IT IS SO ORDERED.18  
19           DATE: August 4, 2006

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20           HON. THOMAS J. WHELAN  
21           United States District Court  
22           Southern District of California

23  
24           CC: ALL PARTIES OF RECORD25  
26           FEDERAL DEFENDERS INC.

27           ATTN: JAMES FIFE